ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and device for frame sync detection using signal combining and correlation. The method comprises the steps of despreading PN coded signals to provide in-phase I1-In, and quadrature phase Q_1 - Q_n signals, wherein each I_1 - I_n and each Q_1-Q_n signal contains at least one sync bit and $n \geq 2$. The at least one sync bit from each I_1 - I_n , and quadrature phase Q_1 - Q_n signals are summed to form sums I_{s1} and Q_{s1} , respectively. The next step provides a reference sync having at least one bit and compares each sum I_{s1} and Q_{s1} with the at least one reference bit. The results of each $I_{\rm s1}$ and $Q_{\rm sl}$ comparison are accumulated so as to form two accumulates, I_A and Q_A , respectively. Each accumulate I_A and Q_A , is squared to form ${\rm I_A}^2$ and ${\rm Q_A}^2$ from which the sum ${\rm I_A}^2$ and Q_A^2 is formed. The sum $I_A^2 + Q_A^2$ is compared with a predetermined threshold and as a result of the comparison a determination of whether frame sync has been achieved is made.

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